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Message Text

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PAGE 01 ASMARA 00799 210430Z

11/44
ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSC-05 USIE-00 INRE-00

CIAE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 PA-01 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 OC-05 CCO-00 SCCT-01 SY-05 IO-10 OPR-02

A-01 SCS-03 SCA-01 DHA-02 /089 W
---------- 056183
O 181428Z SEP 75
FM AMCONSUL ASMARA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3575
INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO IMMEDIATE
CINCUSNAVEUR LONDON
COMNAVTELCOM WASHDC
USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN
COMIDEASTFOR
NAVCOMMUNIT ASMARA
NAVCOMMSTA NEA MAKRI
CNO WASHDC

C O N F I D E N T I A L ASMARA 0799

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (PARA 3 LN FIVE)

E.O. 11652 GDS
TAGS: PFOR PINT US ET
SUBJECT: OUTCOME OF PROTEST TO MARTIAL LAW ADMINISTRATOR OVER
KAGNEW TRACT DELTA INCIDENT

REF: ASMARA 079 (DTG 180938Z SEP75)

1. BELIEVE OUTCOME MEETING WITH GEN. GETACHEW ON SEPT. 18
KAGNEW TRACT DELTA INCIDENT BEST WE CAN EXPECT. WE EXTRACTED
OFFICIAL APOLOGY, FORCED ADMISSION THAT EPMG TROOPS HAD
IN FACT ABUSED AMERICANS PHYSICALLY, GENERATED ATTEMPTS
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AT DISCIPLINARY ACTION UP AND DOWN CHAIN OF COMMAND, AND

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OBTAIN PROMISED ACTION TO MAKE CLEAR AMERICANS. RIGHTS
TO DISPOSE OF THEIR OWN PROPERTY.

2. GETACHEW OBVIOUSLY DISPOSED TO KEEP INCIDENT FROM
SOURING RELATIONS WITH AMERICANS. HE ALSO OBVIOUSLY
CHAGRINED AT FAILURE HIS SUBORDINATES PROVIDE HIM WITH
ACCURATE ACCOUNT OF EVENTS. THERE WERE DOUBTLESSLY HARSH
WORDS EXCHANGED FOLLOWING THE MEETING.

3. ON THE NEGATIVE SIDE, A NUMBER OF SUBORDINATE
OFFICERS, STARTING WITH THE 2ND DIV. CHIEF OF STAFF, HAVE,
AT LEAST FOR THE MOMENT, BEEN ALIENATED. THIS CAN HAVE
UNHAPPLY OPERATIONAL CONSEQUENCES FOR THE FUTURE IF THEIR
RESENTMENT CONTINUES. THERE IS ALSO THE CONTINUATION OF
UNILATERAL OCCUPATIONS OF EVACUATED KAGNEW SITES FOLLOWING
UNFORTUNATE PRECEDENT SET LAST OCT. WHEN BALANCE TRACT
ECHO OCCUPIED WITHOUT PERMISSION OR EVEN NOTICE BY 2ND DIV.

4. AMBASSADOR'S PROTEST TO FOREIGN MINISTER EXTREMELY
HELPFUL AS WITNESSED BY FACT THAT GETACHEW CALLED BY
MINISTER OF NATIONAL DEFENSE SEVERAL TIMES ON EPISODE
DURING COURSE OUR MEETING. IT CLEAR THAT DEMANDS BEING
MADE ON HIM BY ADDIS FOR EXPLANATION OF INCIDENT.

5. COMMENT AND RECOMMENDATION: AS WE HAVE NO INTENTION
REVISITING TRACT DELTA AND IN VIEW APOLOGY AND GENERALLY
COOPERATIVE ATTITUDE GETACHEW, SUGGEST WE REGARD INCIDENT
AS CLOSED.HVWE SHOULD NOT BE SUPRISED, HOWEVER, AT FURTHER
INSTANCES UNDISCIPLINED OR EVEN ABUSIVE BEHAVIOR BY EPMG
FORCES, PARTICULARLY AS STEPS TO INCREASE SECURITY AT
REMAINING TRACTS WILL INVOLVE INCREASED PRESENCE AT OR
IN THESE TRACTS OF EPMG FORCES.
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